

Jack Kleinsinger
presents
Highlights In JAZZ
New York's Longest Running Jazz Concert Series

Two Great Jazz Happenings!

Thurs., Oct. 8, 1992 - 8PM

**WOMEN
of JAZZ**

**DOROTHY DONEGAN
TRIO**

CHRIS CONNOR

Remembers Sylvia Syms

Thurs., Nov. 5, 1992- 8PM

**Doc Cheatham
meets
Jon Faddis**

**Chuck FOLDS
Bucky CALABRESE
Jackie WILLIAMS
Peter BERNSTEIN
Ari ROLAND
Torsten
ZWINGENBERGER**

Specify October 8th or November 5th concert when ordering!

The PACE DOWNTOWN THEATER

3 Spruce Street (between Park Row and Gold Street) -- Telephone (212) 346-1715

Tickets: \$15.00 • Students: \$11.50

Tickets at Box Office or by Mail Order to:

HIGHLIGHTS IN JAZZ • 7 Peter Cooper Road • New York, N.Y. 10010

Make checks payable to Highlights in Jazz • Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope

Coming Thursday, December 10th -- Jazz Guitar Glory

**Herb ELLIS and Bucky PIZZARELLI with Ray DRUMMOND
Marvin "Smitty" SMITH, Tap Dance Legend Buster BROWN**

Mail Orders Accepted Now: \$15, Students: \$11.50

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*This event is made possible with funds from the
New York State Council on the Arts and National Endowment for the Arts
Produced in cooperation with Pace University Performing Arts,
Dr. Nicholas Catalano, University Director*

NEW YORK AGENDA

THURSDAY

That's Jazz

Pianist Dorothy Donegan and singer Chris Connors, accompanied by their groups, will be featured in a "Women in Jazz" concert at 8 p.m. at the Pace Downtown Theater, Pace University, 3 Spruce St., (212) 346-1715.

JAZZ

By CHIP DEFFAA

CORNELIA STREET CAFE: 29 Cornelia St. (212) 989-9319. Cornelia Peter Ecklund may be best known for his evocations of older styles with bandleaders Vince Giordano and Mark Gross and on the soundtracks of "Fried Green Tomatoes" and "The Civil War," but he's also the composer of intriguing originals with titles like "Triumphal March of the Society Bandleaders," "Waltz of the Secret Agents" and "Two Faces of Nostalgia," which you can hear Thursday in this cozy, low-priced room.

THE EAMONN DORAN: Hotel Pennsylvania Ramada, 136 W. 33rd St. (212) 967-767. Michael Banks' Big Seven evokes classic symphony sounds of the '30s and '40s, every Tuesday night.

FAT TUESDAY'S: Third Avenue at 17th Street (212) 533-7902. The New York Voice's songs from their popular GRP jazz CDs, through Sunday, Les Paul, Monday.

HIGHLIGHTS IN JAZZ: Pace Downtown Theater, 3 Spruce St. between Park Row and Gold Street. (212) 346-1715. New York's longest-running jazz concert series presents "Women of Jazz": brilliantly rambunctious pianist Dorothy Donegan plays whatever she feels like (and that can mean anything from light classics to boogie-woogie to Ray Charles — and it all swings) and vocalist Chris Connor offers a remembrance of Sylvia Syms, Thursday.

THE NEW YORK AMSTERDAM NEWS

Dorothy Donegan: whirlwind virtuoso among jazz pianists

By CLARENCE ATKINS
Special to the AmNews

According to Webster, "phenomenal" means extraordinary or marvelous. More specifically translated, it is Dorothy Donegan. She is in every respect and by any standard one of the gems of our treasured musical legacy, who has enjoyed years of acclaim from both her musical peers and contemporaries.

A native of Chicago, she began her piano studies as a child. With her mother's support, she attended the Chicago Conservatory of Music for four years. As a teenager, she began playing in dance bands around Chicago. There are allegations that Art Tatum (the pre-eminent master of jazz piano) heard about young Dorothy and tracked her down. It is also fact that they enjoyed a close friendship which was fueled by their mutual respect for the musical ideas of each other — "genius plus genius equals majesty." Donegan has always avowed Tatum as her major influence — a claim which is conspicuous by its presence whenever you hear her play.

Donegan arrived impressively on the local scene in the 1950s. This was also a period in which two other female pianists were enjoying flourishing careers appearing at such clubs as Cafe Society and The Embers: Mary Lou Williams and Hazel Scott. The emergence of Donegan made this a strongly competitive triad. Donegan was readily distinguished by her penchant for including passages from the classics in her jazz arrangements.

Critics have suggested that her forceful employment of the foot pedal and her singing distracted from her virtuosity. Nonetheless, this veteran of many years as one of the virtuosos of jazz piano continues to excite audiences.

Recently at Fat Tuesday's it was business as usual, as she literally mesmerized the capacity crowd with an incredible display of swing piano. Her present trio, rounded out by John Burr's bass and the drums of the incomparable Ray Mosca, is clearly the most proficient of her many groups.

The repertoire on this occasion, as always, included an Ellington medley and standards from Cole Porter such as "I Get a Kick Out of You" and "Love for Sale," embellished with classical passages from masters like Ravel, Rachmaninoff and Schubert. Her display of fire and energy throughout the performance delighted the enthusiastic gathering as they responded with lavish applause.

Devotees of the art form should note that Donegan returns to the local scene this Thursday, appearing at Pace College in downtown Manhattan. This will be a segment of Jack Kleinsinger's "Highlights in Jazz," billed as "Women in Jazz," featuring the Dorothy Donegan Trio and singer Chris Connor in a tribute to the late and legendary Sylvia Sims.

The Pace College downtown theatre is located at 3 Spruce Street, just off Park Row, opposite City Hall. The number to call for information is (212) 346-1715.

September 23, 1992, THE VILLAGER, p. 8



DOROTHY DONEGAN TRIO: Oct. 8; 8 P.M.; Pace Downtown Theater, Pace University; 3 Spruce St; Kicking off the 20th Fall Season of Jack Kleinsinger's "Highlights in Jazz" series which will be a concert devoted to "Women in Jazz."

THE NEW YORK TIMES, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1992

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presents **HIGHLIGHTS IN JAZZ**
Thursday, OCTOBER 8th - 8PM
WOMEN OF JAZZ
DOROTHY DONEGAN TRIO
CHRIS CONNOR Remembers SYLVIA SYMS
The **PACE DOWNTOWN THEATER**
3 Spruce St. (between Park Row & Gold St.)
Tickets: \$15, Students \$11.50 • Telephone 346-1715

The incomparable Donegan

By CLARENCE
ATKINS

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DONEGAN